

Comment on FCC: 17-108

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Greetings:

I would like to document my support for “Net-Neutrality” and the continued oversight of Title II of the 1934 FCC rules regarding Internet Service Providers.

As a former corporate executive, current small business owner, and amateur radio licensee for over 30 years (WB2FHR), I am concerned when the FCC ignores the general good of the American people in favor of large businesses – even though the stated intent of these businesses may be in the public good.

While not an issue in this topic, I do not support the continuing mergers of large communications organizations.

However, these mergers are occurring and with such potential to control markets, I am seriously concerned that eroding protections like “net-neutrality” will create further imbalances in future of the internet economy. Allowing ISP’s (whose business areas now conflict with content providers) the control of content distribution creates the perception (and potentially the reality) of true predatory policies against certain content. The potential extension of this possibility goes well in to First Amendment issues.

As a practicing, Electrical Engineer (with a PhD in Electrical Engineering) I have a grasp on the technical and business issues associated with the ever-increasing bandwidth demands of our ‘internet economy.’ I understand the desire on behalf of both the ISP’s and the regulation community for the simplest solution which designates control over the internet bandwidth to the ISP’s.

However, I sincerely request that you as the FCC who are charged with protecting the interest of all Americans can address this issue and seek solutions which move the bandwidth decision process to the consumers of said bandwidth and away from those providing both the ISP service and the desired content.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Ascott ,PhD